

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A collector for an alkaline secondary battery,
comprising [[:]] :

a nonwoven fabric including a core-sheath composite fiber of a polypropylene core
and a polyethylene sheath, which nonwoven fabric has been hydrophilized and possesses
a negative electrical charge by one of sulfonation, gaseous fluorine treatment and vinyl
monomer grafting; and

a nickel film plated on the nonwoven fabric.

Claim 2 (Original) A collector for an alkaline secondary battery according to claim 1,
wherein the nonwoven fabric has a plurality of micropores extending from one surface to
another surface thereof.

Claim 3 (Original) A collector for an alkaline secondary battery according to claim 1,
wherein the nonwoven fabric includes crimped fibers.

Claim 4 (Original) A collector for an alkaline secondary battery according to claim 2,
wherein the nonwoven fabric includes crimped fibers.

Claim 5 (Original) A collector for an alkaline secondary battery according to claim 1,
wherein the nonwoven fabric is produced by a wet process.

Claims 6-15 (Canceled).

Claim 16 (Currently Amended) An alkaline secondary battery, comprising:
a collector including a nonwoven fabric including a core-sheath composite fiber of a polypropylene core and a polyethylene sheath, which nonwoven fabric has been hydrophilized and possesses a negative electrical charge by one of sulfonation, gaseous fluorine treatment and vinyl monomer grafting; and
a nickel film plated on the nonwoven fabric.

Claim 17 (Original) The alkaline secondary battery according to claim 16, wherein the nonwoven fabric has a plurality of micropores extending from one surface to another surface thereof.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended) An alkaline secondary battery, comprising:
a collector including a nonwoven fabric which as been hydrophilized and possesses a negative electrical charge by one of sulfonation, gaseous fluorine treatment and vinyl monomer grafting; and
a nickel film plated on the nonwoven fabric, wherein the nonwoven fabric includes crimped fibers.

Claim 19 (Canceled).